



Customer Pipeline

Emerald Coast Utilities Authority

Have You Heard? Brown is the New Green!



Once again on the forefront of the environmental frontier, ECUA is in the process of constructing a biosolids/composting facility at our Central Water Reclamation Facility. The ECUA Board approved this project in December, 2014 and construction is expected to be completed in late summer 2015.

The Composting Facility will be processing yard waste that will be turned into a compost product, which will

be available to the community. In order to maximize the quality of the mulched yard waste, we recommend that customers use brown compostable paper yard waste bags or reusable plastic cans designated for yard waste in place of the traditional plastic bags. Plastic bags make yard waste incapable of being used as compost or mulch because plastic does not decompose. Thus, the yard waste contaminated with plastic bags could end up in a landfill rather than as a more environmentally-friendly mulch. Furthermore, disposing of yard waste in the landfill significantly increases the processing and disposal costs of yard waste, which in turn could lead to an increase in rates.

Paper yard waste bags are easily found in home improvement centers and large retailers, through online sources and in garden centers and nurseries. Plus, if you ask for paper bags at the grocery store (yes, some local stores still offer this choice!), they'll serve double duty when you recycle them into yard trash bags! It's never too early to start, so the next time you find yourself reaching for that plastic bag, remember that now, brown is the new green!



Mark Your Calendars!

ECUA offices will be closed on **Monday, May 25**, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.



Sanitation Schedule for the Memorial Day Holiday

There are **no changes** to the collection schedules for all Residential and Commercial customers.

All garbage, yard trash, recycling and commercial dumpster collections will be made on their regularly scheduled days.

**Have a Safe and
Happy Holiday!**

ECUA Adds FOG Disposal Station

Cantonment Location Convenient for North-End Residents

FOG has come to the Cantonment area, but residents can see clearly now -- to dispose of their FOG (fats, oils and grease) for free in a convenient and environmentally friendly way. In late March, ECUA opened its eight residential cooking oil and grease disposal station, the first in the northern part of the County. It is located on the grounds of the Grocery Advantage store at 736 North Highway 29.

The station is easily accessible, and residents can dispose of their household cooking oil and grease in an environmentally safe and effective manner.

A majority of all sanitary sewage overflows are caused by the improper disposal of residential cooking fats, oils, and grease (FOG). These overflows are not just public health issues; they can potentially cause serious damage to the environment and pollute the water supply, according to ECUA.

ECUA Board Vice-Chairman (District Five) Dr. Larry Walker said, "The free empty container can be picked-up, filled and exchanged for another empty one, ready to repeat the process. Once the cooking oil or grease is collected, it's then recycled as biodiesel fuel." The free containers are available in a variety of sizes.

For more information on the ECUA FOG program and to locate the other disposal stations, visit www.ecua.fl.gov or contact ECUA customer service at (850) 476-0480.



Did You Know



The ECUA answered 341 requests for pick-ups of **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)** through our HHW Recycling program on April 4. That's right, 341 in just one day!

Haven't yet taken advantage of this free monthly service to ECUA residential sanitation customers? We would love to help you to dispose of HHW items in a safe and efficient way. Check out the list of what's accepted in our program on the ECUA website at:

www.ecua.fl.gov/green/recycling

The next two HHW pick-up days for ECUA residential sanitation customers are on:

May 2 & June 6

Call ECUA Customer Service at **476-0480** to request a free pick-up at your doorstep!

